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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/503,022	02/14/2000	Vladislav Boutenko	14XZ00055	6021
7590	05/10/2005		EXAMINER CHOOBIN, BARRY	
Jay L. Chaskin General Electric Company 3135 Easton Turnpike Fairfield, CT 06431-0001			ART UNIT 2625	

DATE MAILED: 05/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/503,022

Applicant(s)

BOUTENKO ET AL.

Examiner

Barry Choobin

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 February 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/14/2000.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 2/14/2000 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the acquisition" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

4. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the elaboration" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

5. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the image acquisition plane" in line 7. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

6. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the preceding filtered image" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

7. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the displacement" in lines 5-6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

8. Claim 3 recites the limitation "the content of the acquired images" in lines 2-3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

10. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Florent et al (US 6,430,318).

As to claim 1, Florent et al disclose a method of treatment of a sequence of x-ray images of a body (Fig.4 wherein sequence of a series images is depicted),  
Comprising the acquisition of an image sequence (Fig.2, step 100), the elaboration for each acquired current image of a current filtered image from the acquired current Image and from the preceding filtered image (Fig. 1, and column 3, lines 9-26), and visualization of the filtered image sequence (display 7, Fig.6 and column 9, line 38), wherein for each acquired current image the displacement of the current image is determined relative to the acquired preceding image in the image acquisition plane (column 5, lines 45-58 and Fig.4b), a displaced preceding filtered image is elaborated by spatially displacing the preceding filtered image (Fig.4b), taking the displacement into account, and the current filtered image is elaborated by the weighted average between

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the acquired current image and the displaced preceding filtered images so as to improve the quality of the images visualized (column 7, lines 7-28).

As to claim 2, Florent et al disclose the method according to claim 1 (see claim 1, above), in which the body is laid on a movable table, wherein the displacement of the current image is determined in the image acquisition plane from the value of displacement of the table and spatial orientation and distance of the acquisition plane relative to the table (Fig.6).

As to claim 3, Florent et al disclose the method according to claim 1 (see claim 1, above), wherein the displacement of the current image is determined in the image acquisition plane from the content of the acquired images (Fig.4A and column 5, lines 45-58).

### ***CONTACT INFORMATION***

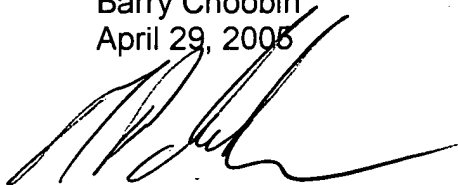
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barry Choobin whose telephone number is 571-272-7447. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 AM to 18:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on 571-272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Barry Choobin  
April 29, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Choobin', is written over the typed name and date.